

REMARKS

This communication is a full and timely response to the non-final Office Action dated September 28, 2004 (Paper No./Mail Date 20040915). By this communication, Applicant has canceled claim 14 without prejudice or disclaimer of the underlying subject matter.

Applicant thanks the Examiner for allowing claims 1, 3-11, and 13. As discussed above, Applicant has canceled claim 14 without prejudice. Thus, Applicant respectfully submits that this application is in condition for allowance.

Rejections Under 35 U.S.C. §103

Claim 14 was rejected under 35 U.S.C. §103(a) as unpatentable over *Kashitani et al.*, U.S. Patent No. 5,625,183 in view of *Kenji*, Japanese Patent No. 08070407, and further in view of *Kashitani*, U.S. Patent No. 5,757,518. Applicant has canceled claim 14 without prejudice. Thus, the rejection of claim 14 is moot. Accordingly, Applicant respectfully requests that the rejection of claim 14 under §103 should be withdrawn.

Conclusion

Based on at least the foregoing amendments and remarks, Applicants submit that claims 1, 3-11, and 13 are allowable, and this application is in condition for allowance. Accordingly, Applicants request favorable reexamination and reconsideration of the application. In the event the Examiner has any comments or suggestions for placing the application in even better form, Applicants request that the Examiner contact the undersigned attorney at the number listed below.

Application No.: 09/283,233

Docket No.: SON-1532

Applicant believes no fee is due with this response. However, if a fee is due, please charge our Deposit Account No. 18-0013, under Order No. SON-1532 from which the undersigned is authorized to draw.

Dated: December 27, 2004

Respectfully submitted,

By 

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